11 Publication number:

0 370 151 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21) Application number: 88402920.8

(51) Int. Cl.5: G01N 33/00

2 Date of filing: 21.11.88

Date of publication of application: 30.05.90 Bulletin 90/22

Designated Contracting States:
FR

- 71 Applicant: L'AIR LIQUIDE, SOCIETE ANONYME
 POUR L'ETUDE ET L'EXPLOITATION DES
 PROCEDES GEORGES CLAUDE
 75, Quai d'Orsay
 F-75321 Paris Cédex 07(FR)
- Inventor: Mettes, Jacques
 5-9-9, Tokodai Toyosato-machi
 Tsucuba Gun Ibaraki-Pref. 300-26(JP)
 Inventor: Kimura, Takako
 5-9-9, Tokodai Toyosato-machi
 Tsucuba Gun Ibaraki-Pref. 300-26(JP)
 Inventor: Schack, Michael
 5-9-9, Tokodai Toyosato-machi
 Tsucuba Gun Ibaraki-Pref. 300-26(JP)
- Representative: Vesin, Jacques et al L'AIR LIQUIDE, SOCIETE ANONYME POUR L'ETUDE ET L'EXPLOITATION DES PROCEDES GEORGES CLAUDE 75, qual d'Orsay
 F-75321 Paris Cédex 07(FR)
- Process for producing low-concentration gas mixtures, and apparatus for producing the same.
- The invention relates to a process for producing gas mixtures by a plurality of dilution steps of a high concentration standard gas with a high purity diluent gas.

According to the invention, as soon as the high purity diluent gas is generated, no further contaminants such as gaseous impurities are added during the further mixing or diluting steps of the process. Only orifices or needle valves are used in the mixing or diluting lines while mass flow controllers and pressure regulators are placed upstream, at the output of the gas sources and/or downstream, i.e. in the gas -venting lines.

The invention particularly applies to trace analya sis of gases with APIMS.

